

1. (as amended) A system for maintaining and distributing a plurality of respective work schedules generated on behalf of at least one manager supervising a plurality of workers, and for enabling ones of the workers to initiate changes to their respective work schedules, the system comprising at least the following:

a schedule generator configured to generate data representing the plurality of

respective work schedules for the plurality of workers;

a database in communication with said schedule generator for storing said data;

and at least one employee interface positioned at at least one location

within a work environment, wherein said at least one employee interface is

in communication with said schedule generator and is configured to

display data representing respective ones of the work schedules to

corresponding ones of the workers, and is adapted to enable ones of the

workers to initiate changes to their respective work schedules.

3. (as amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the employee interface is adapted to enable the workers to initiate changes to their respective work schedules without action by the at least one manager.

4. (as amended) The system of Claim 1 further including an attendance module configured to utilize said data representing the work schedules and data regarding which workers are present in the work place to determine worker attendance.

Please cancel claims 41, 42, and 43 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer.

44. (as amended) A scheduling apparatus for creating and displaying a work schedule comprising:

means for creating a schedule for each of a plurality of employees;

means for storing said schedule as schedule data;

means for allowing said employees to view said schedule data at a remote location;

means for retrieving said schedule data from said means for storing;

means for displaying said schedule data to at least one f said employees at said  
remote location; and

means for enabling ones of said employees to propose changes to their respective  
schedule data.

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